



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

June 12, 2006



This aerial of the Capitol Visitor Center on the east side of the Capitol was taken Thursday, June 8, 2006. Installation of two large skylights above the Great Hall is visible in the center of the photo. In the foreground can be seen 32 Tulip Poplar trees which now line entrance paths to the CVC along the East Capitol Street extension. At the top of the photo can be seen the East Front center steps, which had been removed earlier this spring to allow crews to waterproof the concrete slabs below. The original granite step blocks have now been returned to their original locations. Approximately 200,000 eight-inch-square granite paving stones now cover much of the plaza, and most of the historic elements have been reinstalled.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 6/12/06 through 6/16/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- A skylight installation contractor continues installation of the two large skylights above the Great Hall. Both the north and south skylights should be in place by mid-July.
- Drywall installation and plaster work is complete in the three ceiling vaults above the Great Hall and the work has been inspected and approved. Following the installation of acoustic panels in the ceiling soffits this week, the scaffolding in the Great Hall will be dismantled and floor stone installation will begin.
- Masons continue setting base stone, wall stone, and stair stone in the two lower levels (basement and Crypt levels) of the East Front transition zone.
- Masons continue setting floor stone in the north half of the Exhibition Hall.
- Crews have completed the concrete work around the new trees along the pedestrian walkways leading to the CVC entrances.
- All mechanical systems and ductwork are in place in the Orientation Theater ceilings and inspections have been completed. Installation of millwork is expected to begin in the south theater by the end of this week.

- Inside the House and Senate Expansion Space, the majority of framework and drywall installation is complete on all three levels in both spaces. Wall and ceiling “close-in” inspections for all of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire safety systems are ongoing.
- Masons continue setting stone on all three levels of the House and Senate stairwell atria.
- Workers continue to assemble mechanical elements and finishes to escalators and elevators near the Great Hall.
- Ceiling drywall installation has begun in the Food Service Area.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Preparatory street restoration work is complete on East Capitol Street between First and Second Streets. The street has been paved and the final striping plan will be painted on Tuesday, June 13, weather permitting.
- Insulators and electricians continue working inside the tunnel. Final connection work between the CVC tunnel and the existing utility tunnel below 2nd Street will begin pending completion of preparatory work in the existing 2nd Street Tunnel.

Next Week – 6/19/06 – 6/23/06

CVC, East Front Plaza Work, East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Skylight installation will continue above the Great Hall. Pending the completion of ceiling panel installation in the Great Hall soffits, crews are expected to continue dismantling the scaffolding throughout the Great Hall.
- Floor stone installation will continue in the north half of the Exhibition Hall and is expected to begin in the Great Hall. Ceiling drywall installation is expected to continue along the center zone of the Exhibition Hall.
- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, and install finish stone in areas on the upper and lower levels of the facility.
- Installation of base and wall stone will continue inside the East Front transition zone at the upper level of the CVC and at the Crypt level inside the East Front of the Capitol. Abatement of lead paint on the original sandstone façade will move from the Crypt level to the Rotunda level.
- Masons will continue setting stone along the walls of an emergency egress stairwell near the face of the Capitol.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall and ductwork, and continue paint priming in various zones throughout the House and Senate Expansion Space. Stone installation will continue in the stairwell atria. Wall and ceiling close-in inspections continue throughout both expansion spaces.
- East Capitol Street is expected to be open to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.



A CVC worker seals the joint between two of the glass panels of a skylight above the Great Hall.

For additional information about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aoc.gov. Other project information is available on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.